



PROTECT MISSOURI'S FUTURE



**PROTECTING MISSOURI'S FUTURE
MEANS STANDING FOR
OUR KIDS AND VETERANS.**

SUPPORT HB 970 (HARDWICK)

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.

Missouri is approaching a challenging fiscal crossroads as federal COVID relief funds that bolstered the state budget are rapidly running out. Without identifying new revenue sources, the state could face tough decisions that may result in cuts to critical services like education, healthcare, and support for veterans. Regulating video lottery terminals (VLTs) presents a significant opportunity to generate hundreds of millions in sustainable new revenue for Missouri.

By embracing this solution, the state can protect essential programs and ensure a stable financial future without burdening taxpayers.



NEW SUSTAINED REVENUE

The passage of this bill would establish a new, sustained revenue source by regulating video lottery terminals (VLTs), generating hundreds of millions of dollars annually. This steady stream of funding would provide critical financial support for essential programs like education and veterans' services, benefiting communities across Missouri.



REDUCING NUMBER OF GAMES

The passage of this bill would reduce the overall number of gaming machines in Missouri by implementing strict regulations on where they can operate and capping the number of machines per eligible location. By establishing clear rules and oversight, the legislation would create a controlled and responsible gaming environment, benefiting communities and ensuring compliance.



EMBRACING THE FREE MARKET

The passage of this bill embraces free-market principles by empowering local business owners and communities to make decisions about hosting video lottery terminals based on their unique needs and interests. By allowing businesses to compete fairly within a regulated framework, the legislation supports economic growth and community-driven solutions.



MISSOURIANS OVERWHELMINGLY STAND BEHIND OUR CHILDREN AND VETERANS.

By enacting common-sense legislation (**HB 970 - Hardwick**) to regulate video lottery machines, we can generate hundreds of millions in new revenue to provide our children with top-tier educational opportunities while ensuring our veterans receive the resources and support they rightfully deserve.

Learn more at ProtectMissourisFuture.com



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FAQs

WHAT IS A VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINAL?

A video lottery terminal (VLT) is an electronic gaming device that allows players to participate in lottery-style games, such as video poker or slots, in a regulated and controlled environment.

HOW WOULD REGULATING VLTS HELP MISSOURI KIDS AND VETERANS?

Regulating video lottery terminals (VLTs) would generate hundreds of millions of dollars in new, sustained revenue for Missouri. This funding could be directed toward improving education for children and providing critical resources and support for veterans. By legalizing and overseeing VLTs, the state can ensure these funds are collected transparently and used to benefit those who need it most.

DOES MISSOURI HAVE A BUDGET PROBLEM ?

Missouri's budget has been stable in recent years, thanks in part to federal COVID relief funds that provided a temporary financial boost. However, as that federal funding dries up, many states are beginning to face budget deficits, and Missouri is likely heading toward similar challenges in the coming years. Without new revenue sources, the state could struggle to maintain funding for critical services like education, healthcare, and support for veterans.

IS EDUCATION UNDERFUNDED IN MISSOURI?

Education funding in Missouri has not kept pace with the growing needs of students, as spending per student has remained relatively flat over the past decade when adjusted for inflation. Missouri also ranks near the bottom nationally in teacher pay, making it difficult to attract and retain high-quality educators. Addressing these issues requires a commitment to increased investment in schools and teachers to ensure every student has access to a quality education.

WHAT VETERAN PROGRAMS COULD BE SUPPORTED BY REGULATING VLTS IN MISSOURI?

Regulating VLTs in Missouri could generate significant revenue to fund essential programs for veterans, such as healthcare, mental health services, housing assistance, and job training initiatives. These funds could also support veterans' service organizations and community outreach programs that address the unique challenges veterans face. By creating a dedicated revenue stream, Missouri can better honor its commitment to those who have served our country.

WILL LEGALIZATION AND REGULATION INTRODUCE AGE RESTRICTIONS?

Legalizing and regulating VLTs will establish clear age restrictions to ensure responsible use of gaming machines. Regulation provides a controlled environment with safeguards to protect minors and enforce compliance with state laws. By implementing these measures, Missouri can create a safer and more accountable system for gaming.